Police 1895

File No 47 — 95.

88 30 & 33.

Indexed

with Papers.

Later Papers.

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SB

S. Nos 16 and 17

Form No. 3.

FACING SHEET FOR FILE.

_____ **Branch.**

File No. of

SUBJECT.

Prosecution of the parties concerned in the two infant marriages that took place in April and May 1895 ~~at~~ in the Hassan Dt.

SECTION Police No 3211

FILE No. 47-95

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1896

OFFICE OF THE 8607 18 APR 1896 DEWAN OF MYSORE J 1344

(1)

From

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

To

The ~~General~~ Secretary to the Government of Mysore, General & Revenue Departments.

Dated 16

Despatched 17 April 1896 Bangalore Mysore

Received 18 ——

General No. 3384

No. 360

Enclosure No.

Reporting details of occurrence of 2 Infant marriages in Hassan District in April & May 1895 and stating that the Inspector General's opinion as the cases occurred long ago prosecution may be waived.

Submitted for orders.

Issued Dy Ltr.

These marriages took place within a few days of the date on which the Regulation came into force. It is hopeless that the parties concerned, were aware of the existence of this new law. The ignorance of law is usually a reason, yet in administering a unique Regulation of this kind, the absence of such knowledge cannot be altogether ~~ignored~~. Even apart, it is now almost impossible to prosecute the marriages in question took place, & no useful purpose is likely to be served by instituting a prosecution now. Under circumstances the only suggestion that may be accepted is that the attention of the Deputy Commissioner Hassan may be invited to the fact that the celebration of these marriages was not in accordance with the provisions of Regulation XI of 1894 & that he should in future see that the provisions of the Regulation are strictly complied with.

24-4-96

10.4.96

V

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 33 87
360

Dated ..... 16. Bangalore April 1896.

Enc.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
IN MYSORE.

To

THE ~~GENERAL~~ SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE,
General and Revenue Departments.

SIR,

I have the honor to state that the Superintendent of Police, Hassan District, has reported the occurrence of 2 infant marriages in his District in April and May 1895, the facts of which are as follows:-

2. One Ramaswamiengar of Hulikal village, Arkalgud Taluk, put in a written complaint to the Deputy Commissioner on the 2nd December 1895 that 2 persons named Venkatachalengar and Rangadhamiengar of Hulikal had performed the marriage of their infant daughters contrary to the provisions of Regulation No. X of 1894.

3. Enquiries were made from which it was ascertained that a girl named Jananma aged under 7 years, had been given in marriage to a boy named Ramaswami aged 14 years by the father of the bride, Rangadhamiengar,

and

and that the marriage was celebrated in May 1895 at Hoollalli by Seethamma, mother of the bridegroom and Ramaswamiengar and Venkatapathiengar on behalf of the boy. This is contrary to Section 3 of the Regulation.

4. It also came out that one Venkatachaliengar had given his daughter Savitri alias Seetamma, a girl of about 7 years, in marriage to a boy named Krishniengar aged about 14 years and that the marriage was celebrated on the 14th April 1895. With regard to this case the Superintendent of Police is of opinion that the fact that the marriage was performed only 3 days after Regulation No. X of 1894 came into operation may be taken as an extenuating circumstance in determining whether the parties should be prosecuted.

5. The Superintendent of Police thinks that the marriages having taken place so long ago as April and May 1895, no useful purpose will be served by prosecuting the parties at this late hour. I concur in this opinion and think that prosecution may be waived in both these cases.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Inspector General
of Police.

No. 12133 / 1373. dt 30-4-96. 4

2

SECTION Police

FILE NO. 47-95

SERIAL NO. 33

Read.

Letter No. 3384/360 dated 16 April 1896, from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore reporting the occurrence of 2 infant marriages in the Hassan Dist.t in April and May 1895, and suggesting that as the marriages having taken place so long ago as April & May of last year, no useful purpose will be served by prosecuting the parties at this distant date & that therefore the prosecution in both these cases may be waived.

Order.

The marriages referred to in the letter read above took place within a few days of the date on which the Regulation came into force. It is possible that the parties concerned, were then ignorant of the existence of the penal law. This ignorance of law

is

is strictly speaking no excuse, yet, Govt are of opinion that in administering a unique Regulation of the kind of the "Infant Marriage Regulation", the absence of guilty knowledge should not be altogether ignored. Then again, it is now about a year ~~ago~~ since the marriages in question took place and no useful purpose is likely to be served by instituting a prosecution now. Under these circumstances, the Inspector General's suggestion is accepted.

2. It is regretted that the celebration of the said marriages was not brought to the notice of the Police Supdt. earlier

Secy

To.

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore

mbv
25/4/95